



RELAUNCH PANCAP CHAMPION FOR CHANGE

Setting the Agenda: The Context and Evolution of Champions for Change Initiative

Marriott Hotel

Georgetown, Guyana

12-13 September 2017

Mr Dereck Springer

Director of PANCAP

The Context

- The Pan Caribbean Partnership against HIV and AIDS (PANCAP) is relaunching our Champions for Change Initiative inaugurated in 2004 but which has been in abeyance since 2006.
- This relaunch is being convened under the theme “**Champions for change: ending AIDS by 2030**”.

Objectives

- Establish the criteria for designating Champions for Change, their mandates and catalytic roles for fast tracking the end of AIDS;
- Align the expected contributions of the Champions for Change with international and regional commitments. These include the UN High Level Meeting Political Declaration (June 2016); the Caribbean Cooperation in Health IV (2016) and the PANCAP Justice for All roadmap (2015/2016) and the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals;
- Assess the impact of new programme directions for overcoming barriers to ending AIDS identified by major international and collaborating agencies, especially the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR), Global Fund to fight AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria (GFATM) and The Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
- Take into consideration the recommendations from the recent PANCAP consultations of **Faith Leaders** (February 2017), **National AIDS Programme Managers and Key Partners** (March 2017), **Youth** (April 2017), **Parliamentarians** (May 2017), and other related fora such as the **Caribbean First Ladies/Spouses** (February 2017) championing the Every Caribbean Woman Every Caribbean Child Commitment.

Evolution of Champions for Change

- In November 2004, the first “Champions for Change” Conference was held in St. Kitts and Nevis, sponsored jointly by DFID and CARICOM/PANCAP, to carry forward the objectives of Priority Area 1 of the Caribbean Regional Strategic Framework on HIV and AIDS which states...”**reduce the levels of discrimination and stigmatization against PLHIV and build capacity to respond to the legal, ethical and human rights challenges of HIV and AIDS in the Caribbean**”.

Evolution of Champions for Change

- The Conference sought to raise awareness of the effects of HIV/AIDS related stigma and discrimination and to bring about a commitment by participants to changing prevailing negative attitudes towards persons infected and affected by HIV/AIDS, establishing the concept of “Champions for Change”.
- Attended by a wide cross section of community leaders including politicians, sporting icons, parliamentarians and entertainers from across the Caribbean, the unique position of Faith Based Organisations (FBOs) in reaching large communities throughout the Region, was quickly recognized.
- Thus, following the success of the St. Kitts and Nevis Conference, the decision to mount “Champions for Change II”, specifically for FBO participation, was made.

Evolution of Champions for Change

- “Champions for Change II” Regional Conference of FBOs to Reduce Stigma and Discrimination was held in Georgetown, Guyana during the period 22-23 November, 2005.
- Champions for Change III “Conference to Accelerate the Media’s Role in Helping to Reduce Stigma and Discrimination” was held in Bridgetown, Barbados on 7-9 December 2006.

Here we are again

- After a hiatus of 11 years we are here again
- However we are more embolden; we are now optimistic that we can end AIDS
- **Test, Treat, Defeat**
- **Undetectable = Uninfectious**
- We must believe it



- Thank you
- Mucho gracias
- Merci Beaucoup
- Dan u wel